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# Trapping Regulations, 1987

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## What Mainers Should Know About Chronic Wasting Disease

### What is Chronic Wasting Disease?

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal disease of the nervous system of deer and elk. The disease belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). Other TSEs include scrapie in sheep, BSE or "mad cow disease" in cattle, TME in captive mink, TFE in cats, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) in humans, and variant CJD in humans. Although similar in some respects, there is no known causal relationship between chronic wasting disease and any other TSE of animals or people. To date, BSE, TFE, and variant CJD have not been identified in North America.

### Where Has CWD Been Found?

Currently, CWD is known to infect free-ranging deer and elk in portions of Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming and Saskatchewan, Canada. In addition, CWD has been found in captive/farmed elk or white-tailed deer herds in Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada.

### Is CWD Present in Maine?

Although we lack proof, there is no evidence that CWD is present in wild white-tailed deer and moose, or in captive/farmed deer (red, sika, fallow) or elk in Maine. Each year, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) biologists examine 6,000 to 8,000 hunter-killed deer and 2,000 to 3,000 moose for management purposes. While conducting other fieldwork, wildlife biologists observe hundreds of live deer during a typical year. In addition, biologists respond to hunters who contact us when they kill apparently ill or injured individuals. To date, DIFW biologists have not observed symptoms consistent with CWD in Maine.

No sick animals that may fit the clinical profile for CWD have ever been brought to the attention of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) or private veterinarians from among Maine's 111 licensed deer farms. Since autumn of 2001, more than 850 farmed-raised elk and deer slaughtered in Maine have been tested for CWD. To date, all tests have been negative for CWD.

In a 1999 cooperative study, DIFW, DOA, and US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) officials tested 299 hunter-killed white-tailed deer from the western mountains and foothills of Maine. All deer tested negative for CWD. In 2002, DIFW biologists tested 831 hunter-killed deer from all areas of the state. All deer tested negative for CWD. Similar negative results were obtained from 810 deer in 2003.

At this time, we consider Maine to be CWD-free, based on available evidence. However, we are stepping up surveillance for wild deer and captive/farmed cervids to better evaluate CWD status in Maine, as is being done throughout the U.S.

### What Causes CWD?

The prevailing theory is that an infectious, abnormally-shaped protein called a CWD prion (pree-on) causes certain other brain proteins to change to a diseased form. CWD prions then accumulate in the brain and other nervous tissues, where they physically damage affected nerve cells. The disease agent also occurs in lymph tissues, tonsils, salivary glands, pancreas, spleen, bone marrow, eyes, and intestines. CWD prions have not been found in skeletal muscle of infected deer and elk. Infected individuals shed CWD prions in urine, feces, saliva, and eye fluids.

### Which Species Have Gotten CWD?

To date, chronic wasting disease has been found only in mule deer, white-tailed deer, and elk. However, based upon molecular similarities, CWD can probably be transmitted to all species in the deer family (cervids), including red deer, fallow deer, sika deer, moose, and caribou. There is no scientific evidence that CWD can be naturally transmitted to species outside the deer family, including cattle, horses, sheep, goats, or swine.

### Can CWD Spread to People?

There is currently no scientific evidence that chronic wasting disease can be naturally transmitted to people. **However, public health officials recommend that human exposure to the CWD disease agent be avoided, as they continue to research this question.**

### What are the Signs of CWD in Deer and Elk?

Chronic wasting disease is a slowly progressive disease; signs of sickness are usually not seen for 5 to 36 months after the disease agent enters the deer or elk. Individuals showing symptoms of CWD tend to be 18 months of age or older. CWD damages the brain of infected animals, causing them to display unusual behavior, lose bodily functions, become very thin, and inevitably to die within 1 to 12 months after symptoms of the illness first appear. Clinical signs identified in captive/farmed deer and elk include excessive drooling, excessive thirst, frequent urination, sluggish behavior, isolation from herd, teeth grinding, holding the head in a lowered position, and drooping ears. It should be noted that some of these symptoms can be seen after a very severe winter in Maine, when deer may appear very thin and weak. Although rare in cervids, rabies may produce some symptoms in common with CWD, such as erratic behavior, and drooling.

### How is CWD Diagnosed?

At present, CWD can only be diagnosed from dead animals. Samples of brain and/or lymph tissue from suspect deer are examined for the presence of CWD prions or for the damage CWD prions cause in brain tissues, using laboratory techniques called immunohistochemistry and histopathology, respectively. In the near future, new, more rapid types of CWD tests may become available, possibly enabling testing of live deer.

### How do Deer and Elk Get CWD?

The ways in which CWD is passed among deer and elk are not well understood. CWD prions are very hardy; they are not easily destroyed by environmental factors, heat, or disinfection. Therefore, CWD prions can remain in contaminated environments for many years. Scientists are not sure if these prions can be passed from mother to offspring during pregnancy. In most cases, CWD prions are probably eaten or swallowed by susceptible animals. Since prions occur in saliva, urine, feces, and eye fluids, CWD is likely transmitted by direct contact with infected individuals, or by contact with contaminated soil, leaves, bedding, feed, or water. Practices that concentrate deer and elk in close proximity, such as supplemental feeding, raising deer or elk in fenced enclosures, and perhaps even natural deer yarding may favor the spread of the disease. In addition, sites where CWD-infected cervids had died (or were placed) may become contaminated, as tissues decompose. Whether or not predators and scavengers can transmit CWD prions after consuming infectious parts of CWD-infected deer or elk is currently being researched. Once established in an area, CWD may be spread when infected wild deer or elk travel to new locations, or when infected captive/farmed cervids are transported to other farms. Contact between wild and fenced cervids along fence lines can spread CWD in either direction.

Are Commercial Deer Feeds Safe?

In theory, prions from CWD-infected deer could be present in commercial deer and elk foods, if they were formulated using rendering products (e.g., meat and bone meal or MBM) containing CWD-infected slaughter and processing wastes. In 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) placed a total ban on the use of MBM from cattle, sheep, goats, and cervids as a component in commercial feeds for ruminants (including wild and domestic deer and elk). Assuming all feed companies are complying with the FDA ban, commercial feeds commonly used to supplement the diets of captive/farmed or wild cervids would currently be free of CWD infectivity. We don't know, however, if MBM from CWD-infected deer or elk was ever incorporated into commercial ruminant feeds distributed in Maine prior to 1997. Nor do we know if commercial feeds currently formulated for nonruminants (horse, swine, poultry, dog, and cat) sometimes contain MBM from CWD-infected deer or elk. **When feeding wild deer or captive/farmed cervids, use only commercially available products formulated specifically for ruminants (deer, cattle, sheep, goats), or use whole grains (e.g. oats, corn) without supplements.**

Winter Feeding of Deer

If supplemental feeds are free from CWD infectivity, the practice of feeding deer in winter cannot cause a CWD outbreak. However, the close contact and crowding typically seen among deer at winter feeding sites can greatly accelerate the spread of infectious diseases like CWD, if an outbreak occurs from other sources. Because of the long incubation period for CWD, an outbreak among white-tailed deer at feeding sites may spread to a large area long before clinically-ill individuals are observed. This would greatly hamper efforts to control the disease. Discontinuing the practice of winter feeding of deer makes great sense as a measure to prevent the spread of CWD. **If you feed wild deer in Maine, please consider phasing out of the practice as soon as possible, as a disease prevention measure.** DIFW has produced an excellent video highlighting the pitfalls involved in feeding wild deer. It is available at nominal cost at their online store: [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com).

Are Urine-Based Deer Lures Safe?

In most cases, the urine used to formulate commercial "doe-in-heat" or other buck lures is collected from captive deer or elk farms. If CWD prions are passed in the urine of CWD-infected deer and elk, the infective agent may be present in these lures. If present, then CWD prions may inadvertently be placed where susceptible Maine deer may contact and ingest them. Depending upon how the lure is handled, CWD contaminated deer lures could also be a source of exposure (and inadvertent ingestion) by people.

At this time, we do not know whether any captive/farmed deer or elk used by the lure industry have ever contracted CWD. To date, deer lures are not being checked for the presence of CWD prions. Until more is known about whether commercial deer lures pose a realistic risk of spreading CWD, **we recommend that hunters use caution in spreading urine-based lures in the environment, and avoid placing the lures on their clothing or skin. Avoid placing deer lures on the ground or on vegetation where deer can reach them.** Deer lures can be safely placed above deer height, allowing air circulation to disperse the scent.

Why are We Concerned about CWD in Maine?

Where it occurs, CWD poses serious problems for wildlife managers, and the implications for free-ranging deer are significant. If it emerges in Maine, CWD could seriously reduce infected deer populations by lowering adult survival and de-stabilizing populations. Monitoring and control of CWD is extremely costly and would divert already scarce funding and staff resources away from other much-needed programs. Public concerns and perceptions about human health risks associated

with all TSEs may erode hunter willingness to harvest deer, leading to unwanted population growth in areas that remained CWD-free. Major reductions in deer hunting would adversely affect Maine's economy, since deer hunting currently contributes more than \$200 million to the economy of our rural state. Perceptions about the safety of farmed venison as human food could cause the collapse of Maine's \$1 million deer farming industry. **Preventing the arrival of CWD in Maine is an urgent state priority.**

#### What is Being Done to Prevent CWD Outbreaks in Maine?

The Departments of Agriculture, Human Services, and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife are coordinating efforts to prevent CWD from entering the state. They are also working closely with other states, the federal government, and private organizations on various CWD-related topics. The activities cover 3 key areas:

- ❖ Preventing introduction of CWD. The Maine Department of Agriculture has banned imports of live cervids from other states until a fail-safe importation system can be implemented. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has issued advisories covering:
  1. safe ways to import hunter-killed deer or elk from states harboring CWD;
  2. cautious use and placement of urine-based deer hunting lures, while the safety of these products can be evaluated;
  3. voluntarily modifying or ending the widespread practice of feeding deer in winter, as a preventive measure.
- ❖ Monitoring wild and farmed deer for CWD. Efforts to monitor wild and captive/farmed deer in Maine for the presence of CWD, as are most other states are increasing. Plans include testing a representative, statewide sample of the deer harvest for CWD each year for the foreseeable future. Captive/farmed deer will be monitored for the presence of CWD (using on-farm health monitoring practices), and by testing certain farmed deer for CWD at slaughter.
- ❖ Outreach. Good communication is important to disease prevention. Advisories to hunters, meat processors, taxidermists, deer farmers, and the public, suggesting ways to lessen the risks of introducing CWD into Maine, and providing basic facts about the disease will be issued.

#### What Can Deer and Elk Hunters Do to Avoid CWD Risks?

If you plan to hunt deer or elk in a state/province **known or suspected to harbor CWD** (see above for list of states and provinces), there are some commonsense precautions you should take to avoid handling, transporting, or consuming potentially CWD-infected specimens. The following precautions are adapted from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

##### General precautions:

- Do not eat the eyes, brain, spinal cord, spleen, tonsils, or lymph nodes of any deer.
- Do not eat any part of a deer that appeared sick.
- If your out-of-state deer is sampled for CWD testing, wait for the test results before eating the meat.

##### Field dressing:

- Wear rubber or latex gloves while handling the carcass.
- Minimize contact with the brain, spinal cord, spleen, and lymph nodes (lumps of tissue next to organs or in fat and membranes) as you work.
- Use a hunting knife, not knives used at the dinner table.

- Remove all internal organs for proper disposal by burial, or other means that prevents contact by live deer.
- Clean knives and equipment of residue and disinfect in a 50/50 solution of household chlorine bleach and water for 1 hour.

#### Cutting and processing:

- Wear rubber or latex gloves.
- Minimize handling brain or spinal tissues. If removing antlers, use a saw designated for that purpose only.
- Do not cut through the spinal column except to remove the head. Use a knife or saw designated only for this purpose.
- Bone out the meat from the deer and remove all fat and connective tissue (the web-like membranes attached to the meat). This will also remove lymph nodes.
- Dispose of feet, hide, brain and spinal cord, bones, and head by burial, or other means that prevents contact by live deer.
- Thoroughly clean and sanitize equipment and work areas with 50/50 bleach water after processing.
- If processing deer from out-of-state CWD management or eradication zones, keep meat and trimmings from each deer separate.

#### Can I Bring Intact Deer Carcasses From Other States Into Maine?

To prevent the introduction of CWD into Maine, we are encouraging hunters who travel to **any** other states and provinces to hunt deer or elk to avoid returning to Maine with carcass parts that pose a risk of containing CWD prions. **We recommend that you return to Maine only with boned-out meat, hardened antlers (with or without skull caps), hides without the head portion, and finished taxidermy mounts.** If still attached, skull caps should be cleaned free of brain and other tissues.

At this time, no state or province can claim to be free of CWD - - too little monitoring has been conducted to realistically evaluate CWD status. **Accordingly, this advisory against importing potentially high-risk carcass parts applies to wild deer and elk taken in any state and province outside Maine, and to cervids killed in commercial hunting preserves everywhere.**

#### Can I Get My Maine Deer or Moose Tested for CWD?

Currently, there is a high demand for CWD testing in states known to harbor CWD. Unfortunately, existing laboratory tests for CWD are expensive, time-consuming, and they can only be performed at a small number of federally-approved labs. Although our system can accommodate enough samples (less than 1,000) from farm-raised and wild deer to scientifically monitor for CWD, we are not able to routinely test hunter-killed deer in Maine at this time.

#### What If I see a Deer Showing Signs of CWD in Maine?

Hunters and wildlife watchers should realize that deer (and moose) are subjected to a wide array of illnesses and injuries that may cause unusual behavior or unthrifty appearance. For example, healthy deer at feeding sites are easily approached by people, these same deer may appear thin and unhealthy for weeks following a severe winter, and deer injured by vehicles or predators may limp and appear sick. Reporting all encounters of sick deer by the public would quickly overwhelm state agency personnel.

On the other hand, if CWD were to emerge in Maine, early detection of diseased individuals provides the best means we have of controlling or eradicating the disease. Therefore, if you observe

a deer that clearly shows symptoms of CWD, **do not kill or handle the deer**. Report the sighting to an Inland Fisheries and Wildlife biologist or game warden (see phone numbers below). **Again, report only deer showing all or most of these CWD symptoms: extreme thinness, unaware or unafraid of people, shaking or unable to walk normally, drooling, can't raise the head, and ears drooping.**

Wildlife Biologists and Game Wardens:

Gray – (207) 657-2345	Greenville – (207) 695-3756
Sidney – (207) 547-5318	Enfield – (207) 732-4132
Jonesboro – (207) 434-5927	Ashland – (207) 435-3231
Strong – (207) 778-3324	Bangor – (207) 941-4466

For More Information:

The following websites are good sources of information about Chronic Wasting Disease:

<a href="http://www.mefishwildlife.com">www.mefishwildlife.com</a>	<a href="http://www.cwd-info.org">www.cwd-info.org</a>
<a href="http://www.state.me.us/agriculture">www.state.me.us/agriculture</a>	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov">www.cdc.gov</a>
<a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/cwd">www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/cwd</a>	<a href="http://www.scwds.org">www.scwds.org</a>

If you have questions about CWD prevention efforts in Maine, the following contacts are suggested:

\* Hunting, monitoring of wild deer:

Information Center, Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife  
284 State Street, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0041  
(207) 287-8000      [webmaster\\_ifw@state.me.us](mailto:webmaster_ifw@state.me.us)

\* Regulation of Captive/Farmed Deer or Elk:

Dr. Don Hoenig, DVM or Shelley Doak, Director, Animal Health & Industry,  
Dept. of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Resources  
Deering Bldg, AMHI Complex, SHS #28, Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
(207) 287-3701      [Donald.E.Hoenig@state.me.us](mailto:Donald.E.Hoenig@state.me.us)

\* Questions about CJD, variant CJD, or other Human TSEs:

Maine Dept. of Human Services, Bureau of Health,  
SHS #11, Augusta, ME 04333-0011  
(207) 287-7087

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John R. McKernan, Jr.  
Governor

William J. Vail  
Commissioner

**DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

Telephone (207) 289-3371

October 9, 1987

Dear Trapper:

This letter provides me with my first opportunity as Commissioner to address all of the trappers of the state. Over the years, I have found trappers to be some of the most knowledgeable and concerned users of our wildlife resources in Maine. Trapper support of the Department's furbearer management programs has resulted in the restoration and maintenance of many species of furbearers. In addition, trappers have been leaders in developing good relations with private landowners which is now a concern of all sportsmen. Your continued support is needed to make sure that furbearer populations and places to harvest them are available for future generations of Maine trappers.

We are sending you a copy of the hunting and trapping law booklet, the beaver rules that were adopted at the Advisory Council meeting today, an up-to-date list of fur tagging stations, and a copy of the Department's beaver/muskrat trapping policy.

You should be aware of several changes that have been made in trapping regulations this year. Fall trapping season dates have been changed to October 24 through December 4 statewide. There is no longer any restriction on setting traps above the ground or snow in December. The opening date of the raccoon hunting season has been moved ahead to October 24 to coincide with trapping while the closing date remains December 15. The bobcat hunting season has been shortened by one month to December 1 through January 31.

In addition to season date changes, we will not collect bobcat carcasses this year as was done in the past. Finally, those of you who are beaver trappers will notice that most closures of individual property owners (land of...) have been changed so that in all but 3 cases the closure is now described by physical boundaries found on a DeLorme map. This required considerable work by Wildlife Division staff but should make the beaver rules easier for you to use.

Fur tagging stations will not change from last year. In addition to these stations, furs will be tagged at regional headquarters and, through prior arrangement, by Department game wardens and wildlife biologists. You can help with the tagging process by keeping track of where (the township) and when (the month) when each fur was taken and by having frozen furs ready for tagging following the instructions on page 28 of the law booklet. If you have difficulty getting fur

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tagged, call the nearest regional office between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday to make arrangements. Remember that only Department personnel, and not tagging stations, will tag otter and bobcat. In response to requests from individuals who handle furs, the general fur seal has been changed to the type used for otter and bobcat.

One of my goals as Commissioner is to improve communication between the Department and sportsmen of the State. If you have questions regarding any of these regulation changes or the furbearer program in general please feel free to contact your district game warden or regional wildlife biologist. Telephone numbers for regional headquarters and other Department offices are inside the front cover of the law booklet. We appreciate your interest and wish you a good trapping year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill", written in dark ink.

William J. Vail  
Commissioner

/ale

Enclosures

## 1987 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

DIVISION A

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Bath (Across from J & J Variety Phippsburg)	Mrs. Donald Freeman Route #3 Bath, ME 04530 Tel. 443-5303	Sebago	Raymond Curtis Box 94 Sebago Lake, ME 04075 Tel. 642-3409
Denmark	Jim Bob's Store P. O. Box 170 Denmark, ME 04022 Tel. 452-2100	Bethel	Wesley's Auto Service Box 707 Bethel, ME 04217
Lewiston	R & B Bait Shop 753 Sabattus Street Lewiston, ME 04240 Tel. 782-4048	Leeds	Bagley's Country Store Brian Bagley Curtis Corner Leeds, ME 04263 Tel. 933-4523
Norway	Woodman's Store 223 Main Street Norway, ME 04268 Tel. 743-6602	Rumford	Rumford Fire Dept. Congress Street Rumford, ME 04276 Tel. 364-2901
		West Minot	Wayne T. Slattery Village Trading Post West Minot, ME 04288 Tel. 966-2631

DIVISION B

Belfast	Dick McGray Dick's Service Station 40 Main Street Belfast, ME 04915 Tel. 338-3490	Rockland	Maurice Torpacka Torpacka's Gun Shop No. Main Street Rockland, ME 04843 Tel. 594-4394
Oakland	Wilfred Rafuse Charlie's Log Cabin 22 Dunn Street Oakland, ME 04963 Tel. 465-2451	Unity	Charles Porter Unity Hardware Box 150, Depot St. Unity, ME 04988 Tel. 948-2900
Skowhegan	Skowhegan Fire Dept. Skowhegan, ME 04976 Tel. 474-3400	W. Gardiner	Bruce Cater Central Me. Sporting Goods Rt. 126 W. Gardiner, ME 04345 Tel. 582-3666
Belgrade Lakes	Kerry Oliver Day's Store Rte. 27 Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918 Tel. 495-2205	Woolwich	Kenny's Store Rt. 127, Middle Rd. Woolwich, ME 04579

## 1987 FUR TAGGING STATIONS (Cont'd)

DIVISION C

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Bucksport	Ed Mercer's Store Main Street Bucksport, ME 04416 Tel. 469-3246	Calais	Calais Fire Dept. 121 High Street Calais, ME 04736 Tel. 454-7400
Dexter	Log Cabin Grocery Burton Cole RFD #2, Box 1190 Dexter, ME 04930 Tel. 924-5017	Ellsworth	Ellsworth Fire Dept. Main Street Ellsworth, ME 04605 Tel. 667-8666
Holden	Miller's General Store Paul Miller Center Street Holden, ME 04429 Tel. 843-5895	Lincoln	Lincoln Fire Dept. 75 Main Street Lincoln, ME 04457 Tel. 794-3372
Machias	Rod's Custom Works Rodney Bragg Rt. 121, Jacksonville East Machias, ME 04630 Tel. 225-8634	Newport	Flood's Take Out Corinna Road Newport, ME 04953 Tel. 368-5743
Old Town	David Hanson Old Town Trading Post RR #1, Box 182 Old Town, ME 04468 Tel. 827-7032		

DIVISION D

E. Millinocket	E. Millinocket Fire Dept. E. Millinocket, ME 04330 Tel. 746-9951	Guilford	Reardon's Store Elm Street Guilford, ME 04443 Tel. 876-4486
Jackman	Bishop's Store Raymond Levesque Jackman, ME 04945 Tel. 668-3411	Atkinson	Snow's General Store RFD 3, Box 63 Dover-Foxcroft 04426 Tel. 564-7763
Brownville	Herbert Bryant Davis Street Brownville, ME 04414		

DIVISION E

St. Francis	Mrs. Edgar Walker St. Francis, ME 04774	Fort Kent	James Moore Daigle & Daigle 45 East Main Street Fort Kent, ME 04743 Tel. 834-3911
Houlton	Patricia Woods R#1, Box 216 Ludlow Road Houlton, ME 04730	Patten	Kenneth Lau Patten General Store Box 479, Main Street Patten, ME 04765
Presque Isle	Dana Packard Roy's A & N 690 Main Street Presque Isle, ME 04769	Caribou	L. C. Willard Sweden Street Caribou, ME 04736

## BEAVER/MUSKRAT TRAPPING POLICY

1. Beaver Dam - For enforcement and informational purposes, a beaver dam shall be defined as any dam constructed by beaver, no matter what its current condition. This provides a standard definition of what is considered a beaver dam.
2. Set-back Distance - Set-back distance requirements specified in existing regulation shall apply to the trapping of all species at all times. As this regulation currently reads, set-back requirements apply to the setting or tending of any traps no matter what the season or species being trapped.
3. Beaver House - The term beaver house shall be interpreted to include any cavity in the bank which is capped by beaver with mud and sticks. The above definition addresses the question of whether or not a bank den is considered to be a beaver house, as well as the question of what is considered to be a bank den. Holes in the bank not capped with mud and sticks shall not be considered beaver houses.
4. Muskrat Den - A muskrat den is any cavity which is capped by muskrats with vegetative matter including but not limited to hollow stumps and bank cavities. Holes in the bank not capped with vegetative matter shall not be considered muskrat dens.
5. Distance Measurements - For dams, dens, and houses, the set-back distance shall be measured as follows:

House - Measured from the nearest intersection of the house and water or ice. In the case of capped cavity on the bank, distance will be measured

from the nearest intersection of the cap and water, ice, or land.

Den - Measured from the nearest opening.

Dams - Measured from the nearest intersection of dam with water, ice, or land.

The above standards will provide for the uniform determination of legal set-back distances.

6. Advanced Preparation on "Trapping Grounds" - There shall be no installation or placement of trapping implements, associated materials, or supplies or preparation of the site IN the water or ON the ice including the associated flowage, marsh, bog, brook, stream, river, pond, or lake prior to the beginning of the trapping season on these species. The above definition will provide a uniform definition of what constitutes advanced preparation for beaver and muskrat trapping.
7. Nuisance Beaver Removal - Every effort shall be made to minimize the out-of-season removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner. This shall be accomplished by: (1) maintaining in-season trapping opportunity in problem areas, and (2) restricting the removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner prior to the beaver trapping season. Except in emergency situations, no nuisance beaver will be removed within 30 days of the opening day of the beaver trapping season in that area. A list of locations where beaver have been removed within 30 days of the opening of the beaver trapping season will be maintained at appropriate regional offices (Gray, Augusta, Bangor, Greenville and Ashland). The above provisions will maintain a greater level of beaver trapping opportunity.